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The Coronavirus (and actions being taken to limit its spread) continues to confound our plans. Please watch your email for any changes to upcoming events. If you do not have email, please call Ramona/Adrian at 608-788-7507 to check if an event will happen. Stay well, everyone!

Fra Presidenten



May greetings to my fellow Wergeland Lodge Members! This month we celebrate Syttende Mai, Mothers Day, Memorial Day, Confirmations, and Graduations. As the "social distancing" will still be in place, we look forward to better days when we can meet together.

Business for the lodge has been carried out by computer and telephone. Board meetings are cancelled, so we e-mail the executive committee to get their vote on business matters. For example, \$200. that was to be used for our new member breakfasts was matched by Sons of Norway in Minneapolis. So \$400.00 was sent to the Salvation Army to help them at this time of need. The membership drive is still on through June at a reduced fee for their first year. Instead of having a breakfast, the new members will receive a \$10.00 gift card from the Arterial, and their recruiter will receive the same. So keep recruiting new members!

I will look at plans for meetings and events for our lodge month by month. For now, all May events have been cancelled. We will continue to look at each month and schedule events as we can. If you have questions or suggestions, we invite your input. Call me any-time, I AM AT HOME!
- Ramona



Treasurer's Report:

March 31, 2020 checking balance	\$6,403.71
March 31, 2020 scholarship balance	\$2,406.50
March 31, 2020 savings balance	\$18,693.63
Totals for March 31, 2020 on all accounts	\$27,503.84

Wergeland Kalender

- ◆ May 7—NO WERGELAND LODGE MEETING or Banquet
- ◆ May 12—NO BOARD MEETING
- ◆ May 18, Deadline for Budstikken articles
- ◆ May 28, Budstikken mailed to members
- ◆ June 4, Pie Social—watch for details (or cancellation...)



No May Banquet

Notice!! The May 7 Syttende Mai Banquet has been cancelled. We decided to follow the guidelines for events that gather people together. Hopefully, everyone can stay healthy and we can gather for the June pie social.

HAPPY



SYTTENDE MAI





Mai Birthdays

- 3 Daniel J Hammes
- 8 Claire Everson
- 11 Alex M Hagen
- 12 Ardelle M Ender
- 13 Emma Marie Johnson
- 16 Adrian E Hagen
- 20 Grant J Simmons
- 21 Howard M Johnsrud
- 22 Trygve A Mathison
- 22 Eric James Pederson
- 25 Rod Ofte
- 26 Jake D Rudser
- 28 Brian L Rainer
- 29 Gregory Buczynsky
- 31 Ruth Anderson



Don't Forget!

- 1) Record your activities/miles and send the numbers to Karen Broadhead.
- 2) ALSO take pictures of your activity! See p. 5 message from the District 5 Sports Director.
- 3) Five things you can do to keep occupied: →

Program for June

Pie Social and guest Lori Dubczak from Norskedalen

We do not have minutes from the Secretary, as there were no meetings in April. In place of the minutes, we have a message from the Sons of Norway District 5 President:

Kjære Venner,

As of now I am sure that most of the members of the District have received word that the 2020 Fifth District Convention/Meeting and the 2020 International Convention/Meeting have been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a unanimous vote by the International Board of Directors to cancel the 2020 conventions/meetings. President Ron Stubbings has instructed all sons of Norway Officers, Directors, and Delegates to, "continue in service until the regular session lodge meetings of 2022". As members of Sons of Norway we need to follow President Stubbings instruction in order to maintain our cohesiveness as a fraternal in this time of uncertainty.

As your District President I am requesting that all local lodge Presidents and Officers be prudent, and that they follow all State and Federal government mandates concerning the COVID-19 virus. Be thoughtful and do not put yourself or any of your lodge members in any undue risk. Stay in touch with your other lodge members using the telephone and electronic means (conference calls or skype).

These are difficult times we are all experiencing. It is my hope that when this pandemic is over the Sons of Norway will continue to be as strong and vibrant as ever.

It is with sadness that the Fifth District has lost one of its finest members, Gene Steensma, who passed away on March 25, 2020. Gene was a past Fifth District President, an International Director, and a long-time member and President of Samhold 5-473. Gene will always remain in the hearts of those who knew. Keep Gene's family in your prayers as they go through their time of mourning.

Med beste hilsen,
Andrew Iver Johnsen
Sons of Norway Fifth District President

HOW ARE YOU SPENDING YOUR TIME THESE DAYS?

Most, if not all of us, have changed our daily routine thanks to the COVID-19 and the Safer At Home recommendations. How are you spending your time, since you might not be out and about as much? In the newsletter this month, you will find some activities that might keep you from going cuckoo!

- 1) **Listen** to a weekly broadcast "Nordic News" from District 5 - the first one is APRIL 28 (sorry - after this is published, but there will be more)! (p. 3)
- 2) **Exercise** - keep active - walking, yardwork, biking. We're getting closer to Norway on our journey (p. 5)
- 3) **Find** your photos from a past trip Norway and **enter** the District 5 Photo Contest (p. 6)
- 4) **Bake** a tart (p. 6)
- 5) **Read** this Smithsonian Article, which mentions other pandemics and their archaeological effect: [Lendbreen Mountain Pass Dates to Viking Times | Science | Smithsonian Magazine](#) (If you have the printed Budstikken and have access to a computer, do a Google search using the above title.)



Condolences til...

...**Luann Hjelle**. Her husband, Pastor Roger Hjelle, passed away in April. He last served Good Shepherd Lutheran in south La Crosse before he retired.

...the family of **Gene Steensma**, who passed away on March 25, 2020. Gene was a past Fifth District President, an International Director, and a long-time member and President of Samhold 5-473. Gene will always remain in the hearts of those who knew.

Tusen Takk til...

...**Joan Everson** and Mary Everson Ivalis for the donation to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Ruth Everson.

Velkommen til...

...new Wergeland Lodge member **Jerome Smith**. Jerome is retired from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. He has two sons, Daniel and Kevin, and three grandchildren. His ancestors migrated to the USA from the Møre og Romsdal area of Norway. He enjoys reading, walking, and coin collecting. Welcome, Jerome!

“Ja, vi elsker de e landet”

Do you know the words to "Ja, vi elsker dette landet" in English, "Yes, we love this country" is a Norwegian national anthem. This patriotic anthem has been commonly regarded as the de facto national anthem of Norway since early the 20th century, being used alongside *Sønner av Norge* since the 1860s. However, *Ja, vi elsker* has never actually received formal status as the official National Anthem – *Sønner av Norge* is still the official one, but very few Norwegians are aware of this (as it is hardly ever used). Nonetheless, *Ja, vi elsker* has established itself firmly as the true Anthem in the hearts of Norwegians since it was first presented more than 140 years ago.

The lyrics were written by Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson between 1859 and 1868, and the melody was written by his cousin, Rikard Nordraak sometime during the winter of 1863-1864. It was first performed publicly on 17 May 1864 in connection with the 50th anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution and, some time later, informally replaced the previous national anthem *Sønner av Norge* (Sons of Norway). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ja,_vi_elsker_dette_landet

Although *Ja, vi elsker* has a total of eight verses, only verses one, seven and eight are normally sung. The lyrics speak of the wars, struggles and significant historical events that formed the country from the Viking age until the 19th century.

Nordic News

April 28 begins a weekly "radio" show and anyone can listen to "Nordic News" by calling 646-749-3112, and entering access code 509-077-557. This Budstikken will not arrive in time for you to know about Glenn's presentation below, although he has presented this very interesting topic at Wergeland Lodge in the past.

Mike Palecek, SON District 5 Treasurer, will host the show and writes: "On Tuesday, April 28, **6:20 PM** (CT) you can join the first session of "Nordic News." During the COVID-19 crisis, this will be a weekly "radio" show, about all things NorwegianAmerican.

The April 28th guest presenter will be **Glenn Borreson**, from Holmen, Wisconsin, who will present "Maria the Midwife: Stories of Norwegian Midwives in the Midwest." Borreson is a well-known Norwegian-American historian, who has a dozen different presentations on Norwegian-American topics which he can do for local lodges. Throughout human history midwives have attended the birth of babies. See and hear who these women were among Norwegian immigrants to America, and why they were important. Borreson tells their stories with photos of midwives especially from rural Wisconsin where they were trusted members of the community. Learn too how their status changed in the early 20th century.

You can listen to "Nordic News" by calling 646-749-3112, and entering access code 509-077-557.

If you want to watch Borreson's slide presentation, you can participate via your computer at <https://www.gotomeet.me/SofN-D5>. Your computer will prompt you to download the GoToMeeting app."

The GoToMeeting software limits the group size to 150 participants.

Some audioconferencing notes:

- 1) Dial in two minutes before the scheduled time, so the meeting can begin on time
- 2) Use a phone with good audio fidelity - if using a cellphone, have the best reception possible
- 3) Don't use handsfree "speakerphone" features - it picks up a lot of background noise
- 4) Be in a quiet place, so it's easy for you to hear well, and there isn't background noise
- 5) Your phone will be muted throughout the presentation. If you want to ask questions, participate with your computer and use the chat feature to ask a question."

Click here for an audio version of Sissel performing *Ja, vi elsker dette landet* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzEplnaDIQO>



Dis og Dat



From Dave Glomstad: "It seems that the Salvation Army in La Crosse is being stretched beyond normal with the COVID-19 assistance that they are offering people in the community and since our scholarship fund is sound I plan to use the birthday bike ride to supplement their funds. I'm hoping to get my employer and maybe other groups on board with this also and the Salvation Army currently has a donor matching funds which I hope he/she will extend to June." **THANK YOU**, Dave, for your thoughtful donation of the bike ride funds.

Carlie Burkhardt completed a tax internship with Wegner CPAs in Madison. She was with the firm from January 7 - April 15 but because of the Covid virus, worked remotely all of March and April. She plans to join them after graduation in 2021.

From President Ramona Johnson:

I am happy to announce: **Marilyn Rudser** will serve as co-chair for special meals with Char Vangen. This committee is in charge of Syttende Mai gathering, the pie social, the pot luck dinner and the Heritage gathering. Dee Johnson and Elsie Olson are also members of this committee. The social committee from January through April consists of Lynn Curtis and Ann Sprain. Darlene Erickson, Pam Knudtson, and Linda Sherwood take care of August through November. **Thank** you for serving so we can enjoy this social time at each meeting.

As a reminder, we still need someone to serve as **Vice President !!!**

Looking Back

Fem år siden (5 years ago) 2015

At our May 7th meeting, along with the program and Norwegian baked items that we have planned, we will be honoring our newest 25 year and golden members. Our book project, "Wergeland Remembers," is wrapping up. It is a nice blend of stories from both Norway and America. Bonnie and Michael Jorgensen will present the life and music of the Norwegian-American composer Theodora Cormontan (1840-1922).

Tusen takk to Sandra Kawatski for heading up the Syttende Mai parade in Westby and again having the Wergeland dancers there to represent us. Also, thanks to Dick Marking for arranging the car for the parade.

Ti år siden (10 years ago) 2010

We honor the Norwegian Constitution Day with our Syttende Mai banquet. Dorothy Lund Nelson of Rochester, MN and her accordion band will provide entertaining traditional Norwegian music as our program. Dorothy has written a book, Burke's Journeys, about an Orphan Train Rider who became the second governor of North Dakota.

World War II veteran Vern Olson will go on the Freedom Honor Flight to Washington DC on May 8. They will see the monuments that stand in their honor. Vern is a Charter Member of the memorial.

Femten år siden (15 years ago) 2005

The Syttende Mai Banquet was held at Drugan's Supper Club on May 5, 2005. Six members who reached Golden Membership status – 30 year mark were recognized. They were Jean Davis, Jean Giese, Margit Jacobs, Ruth Koula, Helen J. Nelson, and Julia Nordby. Two members who reached the 25-year mark were recognized. They were Stanton Jorgens and Barbara Nord. Myron Rundhaugen provided musical entertainment. Richard Granum and Ken Melby presented a skit, "Yust for Fun."

The 27th year of Norwegian Youth Heritage Camp will be held July 17-30, 2005. The camp is located 12 miles east of Eau Claire at the Beaver Creek Reserve.

We are pleased that our new cookbooks, Tastefully Preserving Our Heritage, have arrived ahead of schedule and are being marketed. They contain over 600 good recipes and are priced at \$11.00.

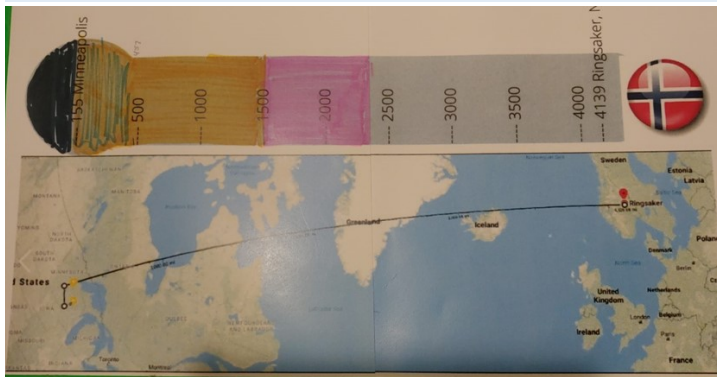
Sons of Norway Mission Statement

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.



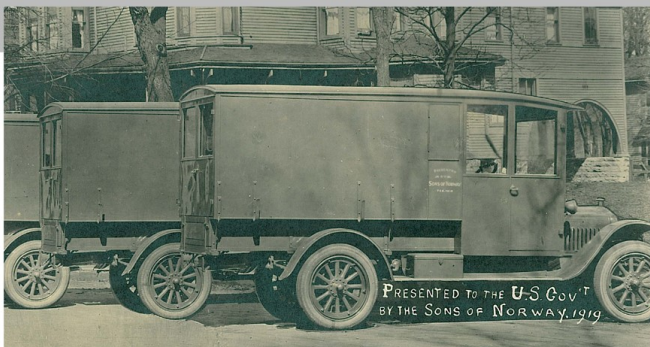
District 5 Virtual Walk Challenge to Ringsaker, Norway in celebration of the 125th Anniversary for 2020 Convention

REMEMBER TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR MILES—We made it to Greenland! We’ve added 800 miles since the last checkpoint—good work, everyone! See the messages about this activity to the right from both Karen Broadhead and District 5 Sports Director, Cheryl Wille-Schlesser. Continue to keep track of your hours and give them to Karen the next time we’re together or email her at kbroadhead@centurytel.net. The challenge runs until ~~June~~ **December 15**.



Fun Fact #5

In 1917, 728 Sons of Norway members enlisted in the U.S. Army. Sons of Norway donated three ambulances to the American Red Cross for the war effort.



www.sonsofnorway.com

From Karen Broadhead: Are you still counting up and reporting your miles for our virtual walk to Norway? Even though the August International convention in Norway has been cancelled, the virtual walk is continuing.

Because of the corona virus, some activities may have been interrupted, so the deadline has been extended to December 15. All the participants submitting miles will be recognized at the end of the contest, so keep active and report your miles to kbroadhead@centurytel.net or 788-2485. Let’s finish our journey to Norway!

Here are excerpts from a message from **Cheryl Wille-Schlesser**, Sports Director for SON District 5:

“...Currently, the Virtual Walk to Ringsaker, Norway has been extended to all of our members until December 15th. This gives everyone an opportunity to participate in this venture. A few lodges have made it to Norway, and they are now somewhere in the Atlantic Ocean on their way back to America! Gratulerer til deg (congratulations to you)!...

...I ask individuals to **take pictures of their activities** and send them to me at: rogcher@mhtc.net. These photos will be added to a Power Point slide show to be shown at the 2022 Convention.

Tusen takk og ha en god uke (a thousand thanks and have a good week),

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser, District 5 Sports and Recreation Director, rogcher@mhtc.net, 608-219-4464”

The Invasion of Norway

Mike Wick of the Nor-sota lodge in Lakeville, MN, writes: “I’m in the process of creating a daily post of each day’s invasion of Norway from April 9th to June. It’s being posted daily at <https://www.facebook.com/Sons-of-Norway-District-1-Norwegian-Heritage-and-Culture-148130308566588/>”

Lars: Boy, is my mother-in-law ever mad at me!
 Ole: Why is dat, Lars?
 Lars: Vell, last year, on her birthday, I decided to buy her a cemetery plot as a birthday present. But this year, I didn't buy her a gift.
 Ole: Is that why she's mad?
 Lars: No, she's mad because when she asked me why I didn't get her a gift this year, I replied, "Vell, you still haven't used the gift I bought you last year!"

DISTRICT 5 PHOTO CONTEST

Do you have a favorite photo taken on a trip to Norway (or other Scandinavian country)? Would you like to share it and make it a part of the Sons of Norway District 5 new playing card deck? Dig through your photos and select up to five of them to enter in the Scandinavian Photo Contest.

They must be submitted by July 5, and each lodge that participates will have at least one card in the deck. Entered photos will be posted online after July 15, with winners chosen by people's choice and the photo contest committee.

Any member may vote on their favorites, whether they've entered photos or not. If one of your photos is selected, you'll receive a complimentary deck of cards and a special certificate. Your name will also appear beneath your photo.

The rules and the entry form are at http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/conventions/convention_contest.php

If you'd like a printed copy of the rules and entry form mailed to you, call Karen Broadhead at 788-2485, or email kbroadhead@centurytel.net.

Since we're still in stay-at-home mode, that makes time available to search for and select some photos. Let's make sure Wergeland Lodge is included in this project!

Norway Cancels Syttende Mai parades

From <https://www.lifeinnorway.net/17-may-threatened-by-coronavirus/>

"Norway's Constitution Day parades in Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger and Trondheim have been cancelled. Other cities are expected to follow.

A few weeks ago, I wrote that the chances of Norway's Constitution Day parades going ahead looked slim. Now, that has been confirmed with the cancellation of public parades by some of Norway's biggest cities.

Last week, the Norwegian government announced a partial lifting of the most drastic emergency measures ever seen in Norway in peacetime. However, while schools will reopen along with some other businesses, public events remain prohibited. This means all cultural and sporting events will be off until mid-June at the earliest.

The aim? To limit the spread of the coronavirus infection COVID-19. At the time of writing, 152 have died in Norway with the infection, while more than 6,700 people have tested positive.

Following the announcement of the extension, Norway's biggest cities announced the cancellation of the parades. While the announcements concern Oslo, Bergen, Trondheim, Stavanger and Drammen, other towns and cities are expected to follow suit." *...The article continues to discuss the traditions and concerns in each of these cities...*

Zucchini Tart with Leek

Ingredients

2/3 cup butter
1 1/2 cups flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1 Tbsp. water
1 leek
1/2 zucchini
4 eggs
1/4 cup cream or milk
pinch of pepper
1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/4 cups (11 oz.) cottage cheese
10 cherry tomatoes (optional)



Image source: www.melk.no

Recipe

1. Cut butter into flour and mix in salt and water. Chill dough for 30 minutes.
2. Grease tart tin and line pan with baking paper. Bake tart shell at 440° F/225° C for 10 minutes.
3. Clean and cut vegetables into small pieces.
4. Whisk the eggs together with cream/milk and seasoning. Mix in cottage cheese and vegetables.
5. Fill the prepared tart shell with vegetable and egg mixture. 6. Bake the filled tart at 400° F / 200 °C for about 35 minutes.

Norway Offers a Glimpse of the Future for Gas Stations



What would a world without gas stations look like? That's what fuel industry representatives have been asking themselves when they visit Norway, where electric vehicles—EVs—are quickly becoming the norm.

Around half of all new cars sold in Norway are fully electric, and the Norwegian government is planning to phase out gas-powered vehicles completely within five years. This means Norway functions as a kind of test case for the rest of the world, allowing a glimpse of what the future might look like if roadside convenience stores no longer center on fuel in the way they do today.

Because most EV charging takes place at home, simply replacing gas pumps with charging stations won't necessarily be adequate. To stay in business, gas stations will need to find new ways to add value as drivers switch to EVs.

Around the world, fuel companies are taking their cues from Norway as they consider how to adapt their business models, for instance by expanding their offerings to include things like premium food, shipping services and car repairs.

A little in English...

Hero Helped Norwegians Flee; Celebrates 100th Birthday

Henrik O. Mongstad helped Norwegians flee to Britain during the war. He was awarded the Norwegian Armed Forces Medal of Merit for heroic efforts.

Mongstad grew up on the Mongstad farm in Lindås. He lived there until he was 19 years old. That same year, 1939, World War II broke out. The Germans attacked Norway on April 9, 1940. King Haakon and the government refused to give power to the Germans. But two months later, the Germans had taken over the country. The occupation lasted until 1945.

Member of the Resistance

In the spring of 1941, Mongstad participated in resistance work in Sørum, and in 1942 he became a contact for Norwegian forces in the United Kingdom. Mongstad worked for the Secret Intelligence Service radio station in Nordhordaland. The radio station had contact with members of the resistance in Norway and with the Norwegian authorities in the United Kingdom. Mongstad helped Norwegians flee to Britain. They fled because the Germans wanted to kill them or capture them. "Most people who fled were resistance members who were discovered by the Germans," Mongstad told Utrop.no.

Hiding in boats

"The refugees came by boat from Stavanger to Bergen. They would hide in the boats. The Germans did not find them. Then they hid on a shuttle boat and went from Bergen to Lindås. Mongstad got them into the boat that went to Shetland.

Risked life for the refugees

Mongstad helped several people escape during the war. His job was treacherous. His family was also in danger. "I know many who were killed or sent to prison camps," he says. "I was lucky." On January 4th, he turned 100 years old.

Litt på Norsk...

Hedersmann hjalp nordmenn med å flykte – feirer hundrede år

Henrik O. Mongstad hjalp nordmenn med å flykte til Storbritannia under krigen. Han har fått Forsvarets Fortjenestemedalje for heltemodig innsats.

Henrik O. Mongstad vokste opp på gården Mongstad i Lindås. Der bodde han til han var 19 år. Samme år, i 1939, brøt andre verdenskrig ut. Tyskerne angrep Norge 9. april 1940. Kong Haakon og regjeringen nektet å gi makten til tyskerne. Men to måneder senere hadde tyskerne tatt over hele landet. Okkupasjonen varte helt til 1945.

Motstandsmannen Mongstad

Våren 1941 var Mongstad med på motstandsarbeidet i Sørum og i 1942 ble han kontaktmann for norske styrker i Storbritannia. Mongstad jobbet for radiostasjonen til Etterretningstjenesten i Nordhordaland. Radiostasjonen hadde kontakt med motstandsfolk i Norge og med norske myndigheter i Storbritannia. Mongstad hjalp nordmenn med å flykte til Storbritannia. De flyktet fordi tyskerne ville drepe dem eller ta dem til fange.

– De fleste som flyktet var motstandsfolk og avslørt av tyskerne, sier Mongstad til Utrop.

Gjemte seg i båtene

– Flyktningene kom i båt fra Stavanger til Bergen. De gjemte seg i båten. Tyskerne fant dem ikke. Så gjemte de seg i en rutebåt og dro fra Bergen til Lindås.

Mongstad fikk dem over i båten som gikk til Shetland.

Risikerte livet for flyktningene

Mongstad hjalp flere med å flykte under krigen. Jobben hans var livsfarlig. Familien hans var også i fare.

– Jeg kjenner mange som ble drept eller sendt i fangeleir, sier han.

– Jeg var heldig.

4. januar fylte han 100 år.

Education in the Eyes of Scandinavia In countries such as Norway and Sweden, the Nordic model boasts high social equality, high productivity, and high levels of happiness. When it comes to explaining why, many people believe it's because of Scandinavia's generous welfare states or free market openness. However, David Brooks, a columnist for the New York Times, is convinced it is a result of how education is viewed in these countries. More specifically, he believes it is their bildung approach to learning. Although bildung doesn't directly translate to English, it means "the complete moral, emotional, intellectual, and civic transformation of the person." In the Scandinavian countries, the bildung approach helps students gain a deeper understanding of the complex relationships between their inner selves, their communities, and society as a whole. In comparison, schooling in America is primarily focused on teaching specialized skill sets, such as math and reading. The outcome of the bildung approach is an increased sense of shared responsibility in all aspects of a person's life, creating a higher degree of social trust.

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MAY 2020



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Norskedalen Activities

Throne Visitors Center
Hours From May - Oct:
Monday-Friday from 9am--5pm
Saturdays 9am--5pm
Sunday from 11pm--4pm



Guided homestead tours, when a guide is available, will be at 10 am, 1 pm and 3 pm Monday through Saturday, and 1 and 3 pm on Sundays. Self guided audio tours will be available in any event.

Admission rates for all programs with the exception of Heritage classes is \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children, \$15.00 for families, and free for members of "Friends of Norskedalen."

Norskedalen Members may use the Norskedalen grounds 365 days a year from sunrise to sunset. Member parking pass must be clearly displayed in front windshield while using Norskedalen grounds.

Non-members may only use Norskedalen grounds during regular business hours and must check-in with office staff to pay admissions and receive a wristband.

Norskedalen phone: 608-452-3424

Web site: www.norskedalen.org

E-mail Address: info@norskedalen.org